PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF SASKATCHEWAN

Where everyone can grow.

Public Schools of Saskatchewan Strategic Plan

Introduction

Public Schools of Saskatchewan, the Public Section of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association, is comprised of 16 public school boards across the province responsible for the education of more than 140,000 students. The Public Section is committed to advocating for and advancing public education in Saskatchewan.

Vision

Public schools are open to all students and are valued for providing an education that meets the challenges of a complex and changing world.

Mission

The Public Section will be a leading advocate for public education and public school divisions in Saskatchewan. The Public Section will champion public education that reflects our inclusive, diverse and democratic society.

Belief Statements

As an advocacy body for public education in Saskatchewan, the Public Section believes:

- That public schools reflect our diverse, inclusive and democratic society.
- That public schools welcome all students, regardless of religious belief, race, gender identity or expression, ability, economic status, location or other circumstances.
- That public schools are the first schools built in any new community.
- That public schools are best governed by democratically elected trustees, accountable to their community and the government.
- That public schools require sufficient, sustainable and predictable funding; and
- That government funding of private, independent or charter schools creates an inequitable education system.

Goals

- to advocate on behalf of public education
- to communicate the fundamental worth of public education in a democratic society
- to protect the rights of inclusive public education where all students are accepted and valued
- to provide leadership for the good of public education
- to advocate for adequate and equitable funding for public education

Public Schools of Saskatchewan Annual Work Plan 2026 2027

Goal 1: To advocate on behalf of public education

1.1 Implement the Public Constituency Liaison Table

Implement the Public Constituency Liaison Table (PCLT), including its meeting and reporting process. Provide an avenue for advocacy within the SSBA through constituency representatives. Provide regular reports from the PCLT to the Public Schools of Saskatchewan Executive on issues, recommendations and follow-up.

Proposed timing: Meetings scheduled in September, December, March and May

Evidence of progress: Table operating; standing agenda item on SSBA Executive, meetings documented; reports and recommended actions presented to Executive.

1.2 Advocacy with Saskatchewan Distance Learning Corporation

Hold quarterly operational meetings with SDLC to address enrolment, registration processes, student success, fiscal processes and other matters affecting public school divisions.

Continue advocacy for public school board representation in SDLC governance or in an advisory structure capacity.

Proposed timing: Quarterly meetings throughout 2026–2027 (September, December, March, May)

Evidence of progress: Four operational meetings; issues and follow-up tracked; governance representation raised, responses reported to Executive and Directors of Education of Public Schools of Sask.

1.3 Maintain advocacy relationships

Schedule meetings and communication with the Minister of Education, Ministry of Education, opposition education critic, SSBA, education partners and member boards to advance Executive-approved public education priorities.

Proposed timing: Throughout 2026–2027

Evidence of progress: Advocacy positions communicated; partner and member feedback shared with membership via Executive and Directors of Education

1.4 Engage with Directors of Education

The Executive Director will meet with Directors of Education of member boards to identify shared interests and concerns, support member boards and strengthen the delivery of equitable public education.

Proposed timing: Throughout 2026–2027

Evidence of progress: Feedback incorporated into the work of Public Schools of Saskatchewan.

Goal 2: To communicate the fundamental worth of public education in a democratic society

2.1 Engage with University of Saskatchewan Marketing Research class

Support the student research project through access to relevant information and participants. Review findings with Executive, identify recommendations for action, and begin implementing approved recommendations within available resources.

Proposed timing: Research and implementation during 2026–2027; final project findings shared in December 2026

Evidence of progress: Research findings presented; Executive identifies priorities; implementation actions and progress documented.

2.2 Maintain website and social media presence

Keep the website current and publish social media content that explains the value of public education, highlights member division successes and supports advocacy. Use research recommendations to guide improvements where approved. Share key advocacy focus from member boards and/or SSBA – Ex – Full Day K

Proposed timing: Throughout 2026–2027

Evidence of progress: Current website; regular posts; engagement reviewed and findings used to inform communication.

2.3 Continue Student Citizenship Awards

Administer and promote the awards, communicate application and adjudication information, coordinate selection, and recognize recipients at the June 2027 event.

Proposed timing: Application and selection cycle with recognition in June 2027

Evidence of progress: Awards process completed; member participation tracked; recipients recognized and achievements publicized.

2.4 Develop and pilot School Community Council information sessions

Develop a workshop or information session for School Community Council (SCC) forums to increase awareness and understanding of Public Schools of Saskatchewan, its role, priorities and advocacy on behalf of public education. Pilot the session at one SCC forum during the 2026–2027 school year, gather participant feedback and refine the content and delivery approach for broader implementation in subsequent years.

Proposed timing: Develop and pilot during 2026–2027; refine for potential broader implementation in 2027–2028

Evidence of progress: Workshop or presentation materials developed; one pilot session delivered; participant feedback collected and reviewed; recommendations for refinement and future implementation identified.

Goal 3: To protect the rights of inclusive public education where all students are accepted and valued

3.1 Support the committee on public funding for independent schools

Support the committee with meeting coordination, information gathering, research updates and preparation of recommendations for Executive consideration. Update Terms of Reference to reflect research grant.

Proposed timing: Throughout 2026–2027

Evidence of progress: Committee work documented; reported to Executive.

Goal 4: To provide leadership for the good of public education

4.1 Explore comprehensive public school board membership

Explore avenues to broaden membership among public school boards in Saskatchewan. Identify participation needs, options and implications, and present recommendations to Executive.

Proposed timing: Exploration and recommendations during 2026–2027

Evidence of progress: Membership options and implications reviewed by Executive; approved next steps identified.

4.2 Review and update bylaws and formalize policies and procedures

Review the bylaws for clarity, consistency and alignment with current governance and membership needs and practices. Consider possible bylaw amendments and identify where formal policies or procedures are needed to clarify roles, decision making and operating practices.

Proposed timing: Proposed bylaw amendments presented at April Membership Engagement and considered at June 2027 AGM

Evidence of progress: Bylaw review completed; proposed amendments and initial drafted policies or procedures presented to Executive; approved documents recorded and communicated following AGM

4.3 Develop an Executive work plan and meeting calendar

Develop an Executive work plan with meeting dates aligned to key priorities, decision points and deliverables in the annual work plan. Add two in-person Executive meetings to support focused planning, discussion and review.

Status and timing: Executive work plan and meeting calendar completed; update as required throughout 2026–2027

Evidence of progress: Executive work plan and calendar approved; key work scheduled for Executive consideration; two additional in-person Executive meetings held.

4.4 Provide orientation for new Directors and Executive members

Hold an orientation for new Directors of Education reviewing the role and work of Public Schools of Saskatchewan, its Strategic Plan, advocacy priorities and ways to engage with the organization. Provide orientation for new Executive members if required, covering roles, responsibilities, governance documents and current work.

Proposed timing: During 2026–2027 as appointments and membership changes require

Evidence of progress: New Director orientation delivered; new Executive members oriented when required; orientation materials available for future use.

4.5 Develop an Executive Director appraisal process

Develop a formal appraisal process for the Executive Director, including agreed expectations, criteria aligned with responsibilities and the work plan, sources of feedback, timing and a process for discussing results and

setting development priorities. Consult with Ted Amendt at the SSBA and bring the proposed process to Executive for approval.

Proposed timing: Development during 2026–2027

Evidence of progress: Appraisal process and review schedule drafted

4.6 Develop an Executive self-evaluation process

Develop a self-evaluation process for the Executive to reflect on its governance, collective effectiveness and progress against its work plan. Establish a draft review cycle. Develop this process in alignment with the Executive Director appraisal process.

Proposed timing: Development during 2026–2027

Evidence of progress: Self-evaluation process drafted

4.7 Deliver the June professional development event

Plan and deliver the June 2027 professional development event with Executive input. Align the program with member needs and public education priorities. Collect and review participant feedback.

Proposed timing: Planning throughout the year with delivery in June 2027

Evidence of progress: Event delivered; participation and feedback reviewed; financial results reported.

4.8 Maintain member support and governance communication

Provide mechanisms for member board support such as regular Executive and general meetings, and updates to all members and Directors of Education. Use these connections to identify concerns and share progress on the work plan.

Proposed timing: Throughout 2026–2027

Evidence of progress: Meetings and updates provided; member concerns and work plan progress reported to Executive.

Goal 5: To advocate for adequate and equitable funding for public education

5.1 Initiate a research grant and engage a writer

Initiate a research grant application to support research on public funding for independent schools. With Executive and committee direction, define the scope, deliverables and budget and, subject to funding and approval, engage a writer or researcher.

Proposed timing: 2026–2027

Evidence of progress: Application submitted; funding decision reported; approved scope and engagement established if funding permits; deliverables reviewed as available.

5.2 Develop and implement a sponsorship program

Develop a program to generate funds in support of Public Schools of Saskatchewan priorities. Define participation options, recognition, approval arrangements and financial administration; bring the program to Executive for approval and begin approved outreach.

Proposed timing: Development and initial implementation during 2026–2027

Evidence of progress: Program approved; prospective supporters identified; outreach and funds secured reported to Executive.